

## Sharp Safe Handling and Disposal

Carlton Church International is one of Australia's and Asia's leading medical suppliers and distributors. We have taken great pride in delivering quality products and health materials to our medical partners in Singapore, Hong Kong, Bangkok, Thailand and Tokyo, Japan. One of the products that we deliver in bulk are the sharps. They are mostly used not only in hospitals or clinics but also for home use which made the demand higher and the knowledge on how to handle these products more general. There are some families though that does not know how to handle these things and the following might just help them with that. Sharp objects include needles, syringes, lancets, razor blades and other items that could cause a puncture, cut or abrasion. Most of these materials are disposable and one should also be fully aware how to dispose them.

Warning, most injuries related to sharps occur when replacing the cap on a used needle. For this reason, used needles should not be recapped; instead, they should be discarded immediately into an appropriate sharps disposal container. It is not safe to carry an uncapped, used needle. Used needles should also be left attached to syringes to avoid injury. Other used sharps must also be handled with a great deal of care to prevent cuts.

A Sharp Disposable Container can be in Handy whenever there are emergencies. It is more like your container for your first aid kit. A sharps disposal container must:

- ♣ Be made of puncture resistant material and not glass or thin plastic.
- ♣ Be leak-proof.
- ♣ Be designed to easily allow sharps to be placed in the container, but difficult to remove the contents, or have a lid that will seal the container when it is full.
- ♣ Be clearly labeled "hazardous materials".
- ♣ Be large enough to hold the amount of sharps you use.
- ♣ Be disposed of in a suitable manner.
- ♣ Daily Sharps Safety Check
- ♣ On a daily basis, you should ensure that the sharps disposal container is:
- ♣ not punctured

- ♣ not filled above the “full” line
- ♣ not stored near food supplies
- ♣ not stored where children can reach it

For disposing these materials, you can call a nearby drug store or pharmacy. They can provide suitable sharp containers and would take the container and dispose them for you. Alternatively, you can call your local hospital, health unit or municipal waste authority to ask about where you can deliver the container for safe disposal.